



CITY OF LAS VEGAS DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING ANNUAL REPORT FY 2011-2012

Downtown Development Projects

The National Museum of Organized Crime and Law Enforcement, The Mob Museum

The Mob Museum opened on Feb. 14, 2012, the 83rd anniversary of the St. Valentine's Day Massacre, in the restored former U.S. Post Office and Courthouse, which was constructed in 1933 and located in downtown Las Vegas. The historic courtroom hosted the seventh in a series of senate hearings into organized crime, led by Senator Estes Kefauver of Tennessee in the 1950s. A variety of interactive exhibits, films and high-tech audio visual displays examine the history and impact of organized crime locally and in the United States, including the role of law enforcement in helping to eradicate and control the Mob.

A \$42 million construction project, The Mob Museum was funded by the city of Las Vegas and nearly \$9 million in federal, state and local historic preservation grants. The Department of Planning assisted the city project coordination team by writing grant applications, reviewing plans and keeping the project on track with historic preservation requirements. Located on the Cultural Corridor Trail, The Mob Museum is an important component of the revitalization of historic downtown Las Vegas.



The Mob Museum

The Smith Center for the Performing Arts at Symphony Park

The Las Vegas Performing Arts Center Foundation, in partnership with the city of Las Vegas, developed The Smith Center for the Performing Arts, which opened on March 10, 2012. The completion of the center fulfills some of the re-urbanization objectives and policies set forth by the *Las Vegas 2020 Master Plan*.

Centrally located in downtown's 61-acre Symphony Park sub district within the *Downtown Centennial Plan*, The Smith Center sits on nearly five acres adjacent to the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, which is situated at the corner of Bonneville Avenue and Grand Central Parkway. The five-acre cultural campus features three performance spaces: the 2,050-seat main hall, a 300-seat Cabaret Jazz club and the 200-seat Troesh



The Smith Center, photo by Geri Kodey

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Downtown Development Projects

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Studio Theatre. In addition, a park, which is privately owned but accessible to the public, can be used for outdoor concerts, festivals, community events and private gatherings. The campus will be home to the Discovery Children's Museum and is home to the Las Vegas Philharmonic and Nevada Ballet Theatre. The complex offers a blend of performances by local arts groups, as well as first-run touring attractions.

The Smith Center is funded by a public-private partnership. The city of Las Vegas has provided the land, infrastructure and parking for the facility. In addition, the city, Clark County and state legislature collaborated on a car rental fee that resulted in a bond of just more than \$100 million.



The Smith Center Cabaret Lounge, photo by Geri Kodey

The New LEED Designed City Hall

The city of Las Vegas new LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) designed City Hall officially opened to the public on March 5, 2012. It is part of an exciting wave of sustainable development projects located downtown, which have included the openings of The Smith Center for the Performing Arts, Bonneville Transit Center, The Mob Museum and Molasky Corporate Center. LEED design standards have established criteria for building design aspects that include sustainable site placement, water efficiency, energy usage, materials, indoor environmental quality and innovation. The benefits of sustainable design extend to the overall community by reducing the energy consumption along with reduced amounts of greenhouse



City Hall solar trees



City Hall located 495 S. Main St.

gases emitted into the environment while preserving finite natural resources.

A sustainable building produces several financial rewards for its owner, the most evident being lower utility operating cost in the form of reduced energy and water use. The new City Hall building has been outfitted with rooftop solar panels as well as 33 solar trees at the ground level located in the entry plaza. These solar panels will produce approximately 290,000 kilowatt hours of power annually and will offset the power needs of the building. This facility is projected to save more than \$400,000 in utility cost and eliminate more than 2,400 metric tons of greenhouse gases annually compared to the previous City Hall, which was completed in 1973.

Multi-Jurisdictional Licensing Program

The Las Vegas metropolitan area has three major cities (Las Vegas, North Las Vegas and Henderson), as well as a large portion of urban area contained within unincorporated towns, which are administered by Clark County. For example, the famous Las Vegas Strip is located in the unincorporated towns of Paradise and Winchester and all business licenses are issued by the county within those areas. As a result, a local contractor must carry a state contractor's license and up to four individual local business licenses to do normal business within the metropolitan area.

Local entities and the State Legislature struggled for many years to develop a solution to address multiple licenses, billings and requirements for a contractor operating in the Las Vegas area. As a result of the efforts of the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition of local governments and legislation passed in 2011, local governments were tasked with creating a regional business license for contractors.

This effort involved four separate local licensing entities, four separate licensing and financial computer systems and four separate codified sets of regulations. In addition, the legislature set a one year deadline for completion of an integrated licensing system.

In order to address this short timeframe and process consolidation involving more than 13,000 contractor licenses,

the local Information Technology and Business Licensing officials set the following goals:

- Common license descriptions, categories and renewal cycles
- Creation of a centralized data store for records (13,000)
- Consolidation and agreement on all data in records
- Common data shared between jurisdictions and available on all four websites
- Electronic exchange of information between various licensing technology systems within established hourly timeframes
- Implementation prior to June 17, 2012

The resulting system was in place by the required deadline and included the development of a system that allows contractors to manage their regional license in their "home" jurisdiction without direct interaction with any secondary local governments. All fees, information and changes are managed at one location and passed through the central database and financial systems to secondary entities. The benefits to our customers have included:

- License is managed by the jurisdiction in which the contracting office is located.
- One consolidated business license, one license number and one consolidated billing.
- Uniform set of rules in all jurisdictions in which they operate.

Online Business License Applications

In November, city of Las Vegas Business Licensing was the first local jurisdiction in southern Nevada to offer online business licensing applications. The goal of the new online feature was to offer customers the opportunity to submit and to pay for general business licenses from the comfort of their own computer. The addition of this local government feature allows local businesses located, or doing business within the city of Las Vegas, to complete all state and local business licensing requirements without a trip to the city's Development Services Center.







The online system provides access to applicants to both state and local licensing authorities in order for an applicant to utilize the city of Las Vegas website for access to the Secretary of State and Nevada Taxation to provide all necessary registrations prior to local licensing. The online application also features an address locator helping the applicant identify the correct local jurisdiction prior to application.

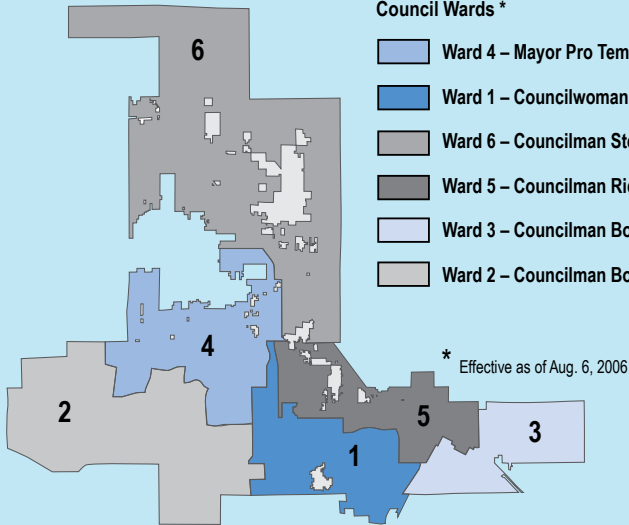
The online system uses the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) to assign businesses into local licensing categories. Utilizing the NAICS codes to classify and track business type has allowed licensing to consolidate 40 percent of the city's individual licensing categories resulting in the reduction of more than 22,000 multiple licenses for local businesses while retaining the valuable classification data for research, reporting and planning use.

At the onset of online applications, approximately 18 percent of applicants choose to use the online application process. By May 2012, after just six months of operation, 50 percent of that month's applications were processed through the online system.

Mayor Carolyn G. Goodman

Council Wards *

-  Ward 4 – Mayor Pro Tem Stavros S. Anthony
-  Ward 1 – Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian
-  Ward 6 – Councilman Steven D. Ross
-  Ward 5 – Councilman Ricki Y. Barlow
-  Ward 3 – Councilman Bob Coffin
-  Ward 2 – Councilman Bob Beers



FY 2011-2012



Carillon Bell, The Smith Center, photo by Geri Kodey

TOTAL SUBDIVISION LOTS PROCESSED

Year	Tentative Maps	Final Maps
2000	3,636	3,162
2004	11,767	9,777
2008	2,873	3,677
2009	78	10
2010	275	134
2011	303	30

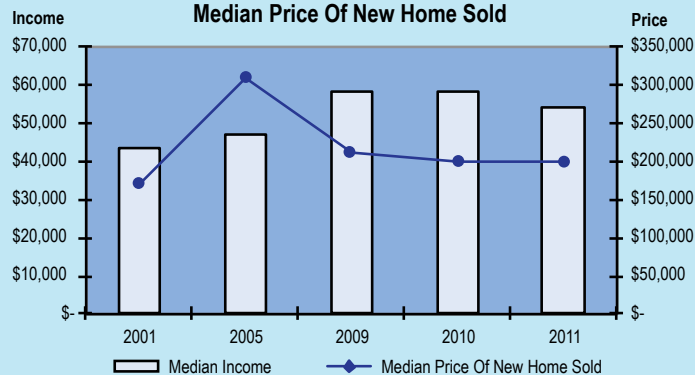
AREA OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS

Year	Acres	Square Miles
2000	70,114.4	109.55
2004	74,951.9	117.11
2007	84,148.2	131.48
2008	84,855.9	132.59
2009	85,277.8	133.25
2010	85,277.8	133.25
2011	85,275.3	133.24



Display at The Mob Museum

Median Income Versus Median Price Of New Home Sold



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2011-2012 Text Amendments

In the past fiscal year, the Department of Planning prepared 11 text amendments for Planning Commission recommendation and City Council consideration related to Planning (i.e. *Unified Development Code* and the city's special area plans) and 10 text amendments for City Council consideration related to business licensing (i.e. business taxes, licenses and regulations code). Combined, these text amendments resulted in 17 ordinances adopted by the council.

The adopted Planning amendments broke down as follows:

- ◆ Changes specific to *Title 19, the Unified Development Code*, or *UDC*, include an expansion of the banquet facility use to the M (Industrial) District, the introduction of a community garden use, revised standards for the massage establishment use to address changes to licensing regulations, defining a co-op and providing for a site development plan review for conversions from an apartment to co-op, and various corrections and revisions completed as part of the *UDC* six-month review process, which included the reintroduction of the C-PB (Planned Business Park) District;
- ◆ The *Town Center Development Standards Manual* was revised to add provisions for the pet boarding, solar panel, and small wind energy system uses and to add wearing apparel to the items that are permitted for a secondhand dealer use; and
- ◆ The *Downtown Centennial Plan* was revised to simplify language related to outdoor dining and entertainment standards and approval, to make the hours for activities related to temporary outdoor commercial events on Fridays and Saturdays within the Arts District consistent with Chapter 9.16 related to noise and to clarify that the Symphony Park District is a sub-district of the Parkway Center District.

The adopted business licensing amendments involved changes to a number of licensing categories and regulations as follows:

- ◆ Chapter 6.54, related to membership clubs, was repealed in its entirety;
- ◆ Chapter 6.60, related to pawnbrokers, was updated to comply with AB 538;
- ◆ Chapters 6.52 and 6.69, related to massage establishments and independent massage therapists and reflexology was updated to establish revised regulations and streamline licensing requirements;
- ◆ Chapter 6.02, related to business licensing generally, was revised to update definitions of license types and provide for multi-jurisdictional licenses;
- ◆ Chapter 6.06, related to privileged businesses – special requirements, was modified to remove child care from the list of license types, provide the Director of Planning more discretion on waivers for principals, and streamline business status changes that require City Council approval; and
- ◆ Creation of a new special events permit process that consolidates a number of processes into one and continues to allow a waiver of the origination fees for tavern limited and urban lounges on a temporary basis.

The number of *Title 6* (business taxes, licenses and regulations) amendments adopted represents the department's and council's ongoing effort to improve the efficiency and clarity of the city's licensing code requirements. The other amendments adopted this past fiscal year further improve the usability and applicability of the city's development code and special area plans. Specifically, considerable work was done to review the recently adopted *UDC* and to make corrections and revisions as needed to make the code easier to navigate and to implement. In the coming fiscal year, the text amendment process will continue to address revisions and updates to the *UDC*, business licensing code and the city's various special area plans as the city works to continuously improve its processes and regulations to better serve the community.

Planning Department's List Of Annual Accomplishments

Fiscal Year 2012 was an eventful year for the Planning Department. In addition to the many ordinances and text amendments adopted, the Planning Division adopted plans and elements for better neighborhoods as well as improved its delivery of quality service to residents and business customers through other initiatives. Highlighted below are the department's major accomplishments.

Long Range Planning Section

- ◆ *The Sahara West Walkable Community Plan* was adopted by the Las Vegas City Council on Nov. 16, 2011. The plan area is located in the west part of the city near the intersection of Sahara Avenue and Fort Apache Road, including the Village Square site.
- ◆ *The Meadows Walkable Community Plan* was adopted by the Las Vegas City Council on April 18, 2012. The plan area is located in the southwest part of the city near the intersection of Alta Drive and Bedford Road, including the Meadows Mall site.

A Walkable Community Plan provides recommendations for improvements that allow residents to easily and safely walk to community amenities and to conduct normal daily activities. The Plan provides a framework for establishing a safe and accessible network of community assets within a comfortable 10 minute walk from the center of the Plan area.

- ◆ The *Las Vegas 2020 Master Plan Conservation Element* was updated and adopted at the June 18, 2012 City Council meeting. The previous *Conservation Element* and *Water Element* have been combined into one Element.
- ◆ The following grant activity occurred during FY12:
 - Completed 2010 Historic Preservation Fund grant project in October 2011.
 - Awarded \$44,000 for a 2011 Historic Preservation Fund grant in August 2011.
 - Awarded \$45,000 for the 2012 Historic Preservation Fund grant in March 2012.

Case And Public Planning Section

- ◆ Pre-applications are now being accepted by e-mail with plans attached.
- ◆ In conjunction with the Business Licensing Division, Public Planning streamlined the zoning review of business licenses to allow for over-the-counter reviews.
- ◆ To assist applicants with their projects, the city of Las Vegas adopted the Southern Nevada Regional Coalition

tree list. The list assists with the selection of the best suited trees for location and environmental conditions.

Business Licensing Division

- ◆ Consolidated gross license categories, thereby reducing the total number from 132 to 56, a 58 percent reduction.
- ◆ Added online services to allow for application of new business licenses in addition to license renewals.
- ◆ Created a multi-jurisdictional business license program in conjunction with other southern Nevada valley local government entities.
- ◆ Developed an inter-departmental single point of contact for all special events permits.
- ◆ Improved the general licensing application process; 96 percent of applications are approved within 30 days with the goal to cut time in half by next fiscal year.
- ◆ Standardize business license types by using federally approved NAICS code classifications.

Planning Department Priorities Mission Statement:

Provide innovative planning and licensing services through establishing a foundation for sustaining neighborhoods and businesses and providing excellent customer service.

Neighborhoods

- Create plans that enable neighborhoods to be stable, friendly and physically attractive by providing land use opportunities for parks, recreation, improved walkability and increased access to healthy food.

Safety

- Improve public safety through increased compliance and education.

Downtown

- Contribute to the momentum of downtown initiatives by implementing licensing and zoning incentives and supporting redevelopment efforts.

Best Practices

- Implement technology to increase productivity and provide increased value to our customers.
- Provide land development and licensing processes which deliver consistency and reliability, and exceed expectations.

Customer Service

- Increase customer service by engaging citizens through the use of technology and process improvements to provide effective communication.

DWELLING UNITS BY TYPE

Year	SingleFamily	Multi-Plex	Mobile Home	Apartment	Townhome	Condo	Total
2011	145,257	7,323	2,799	53,220	9,856	22,825	241,280
2010	144,639	7,347	3,122	53,163	10,315	22,124	240,710
2009	143,716	7,314	3,179	53,481	10,351	21,736	239,777
2008	142,735	7,382	3,158	51,103	10,027	21,346	235,751
2004	127,980	7,386	3,315	50,755	8,021	17,833	215,290
2000	110,497	7,598	3,420	48,927	5,791	16,447	192,680

FY 2011-2012*Continued from Page 2***POPULATION AND DWELLING UNITS BY COUNCIL WARD**

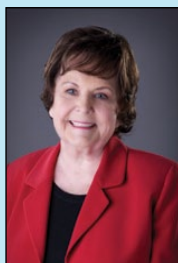
	2000		2004		2010		2011	
	Population	Dwelling Units	Population	Dwelling Units	Population	Dwelling Units	Population	Dwelling Units
Ward 1	77,394	32,385	79,629	33,051	89,539	37,426	89,979	37,336
Ward 2	84,328	34,802	94,270	40,061	98,475	41,259	92,922	41,390
Ward 3	78,849	30,303	81,842	26,958	95,488	35,255	96,068	35,096
Ward 4	82,122	32,320	92,432	40,378	99,814	42,462	93,332	42,592
Ward 5	76,244	31,765	83,440	31,264	94,292	37,356	93,116	37,185
Ward 6	83,937	31,105	103,656	43,578	129,048	46,952	120,939	47,681
Total	482,874	192,680	535,269	215,290	606,656	240,710	586,356	241,280

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING RECAP

	3rd Qtr 2011	4th Qtr 2011	1st Qtr 2012	2nd Qtr 2012	Total FY 2011-2012
Phone Calls To Main Extension	1,744	1,335	1,748	1,617	6,444
Number Of Customers Served	3,397	3,301	3,666	4,579	14,943
Number Of Land Use Applications Processed	218	226	250	254	948
Number Of Building Permits Processed	911	811	777	954	3,453
Agenda Items					
City Council Cases	152	97	55	141	445
Planning Commission Cases	137	125	98	262	622
GIS Map Requests	137	128	163	175	603
Total Grants In Dollars	\$44,000		\$45,000		\$89,000
General Plan Amendments – Total					
GPA's – City Initiated	–	–	–	3	3
GPA's – Customer Initiated	1	3	2	–	6



Planning Commission (left to right): Richard P. Bonar, Byron A. Goynes, Vice Chairman Gus W. Flangas, Chairwoman Vicki Quinn, Trinity Schlottman, Ric Truesdell and Todd L. Moody.



City Council (left to right): Carolyn G. Goodman, mayor; Stavros S. Anthony, mayor pro tem; Lois Tarkanian, councilwoman; Steven D. Ross, councilman; Ricki Y. Barlow, councilman; Bob Coffin, councilman; and Bob Beers, councilman.



The Development Services Center, 333 N. Rancho Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada.



Las Vegas City Council

Carolyn G. Goodman,
Mayor
Stavros S. Anthony, Ward 4,
Mayor Pro Tem
Lois Tarkanian, Ward 1,
Councilwoman
Steven D. Ross, Ward 6,
Councilwoman
Ricki Y. Barlow, Ward 5,
Councilman
Bob Coffin, Ward 3,
Councilman
Bob Beers, Ward 2,
Councilman

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City Manager
Orlando Sanchez,
Deputy City Manager
Scott D. Adams,
Chief Officer
Community Services
Mark R. Vincent,
Chief Officer
Internal Services
Karen Coyne,
Chief Officer
Public Safety

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